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NEW YEAR ADDRESS

KIM IL SUNG

Dear comrades,

We have seen out the year 1973, the year of glory which witnessed great successes in the revolutionary struggle and constructive work, and are seeing in a hopeful New Year 1974, which will shine with a new struggle and victory.

Allow me to offer, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic, warm New Year congratulations and greetings to our heroic working class and cooperative farmers and all other working people who waged a courageous struggle for socialist construction last year.

Allow me also to extend warm New Year felicitations to the valiant officers and men of the People's Army and People's Security Forces, the Public Security personnel, Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and Red Young Guardsmen who are firmly defending the security of the fatherland and the gains of the revolution.

I extend my New Year greetings to the south Korean revolutionaries and democratic figures, youth, students and people of all strata who are fighting courageously for the democratization of south Korean society and the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

I warmly congratulate the members of the delegation of Koreans in Japan headed by Comrade Hong Bong Su, Vice-Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Chongryon (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), and the members of different Chongryon delegations who are greeting the New Year with us in the homeland, and extend my New Year greetings to Comrade Han Dok Su and all the functionaries of the Chongryon and the Koreans in Japan and to all other Koreans abroad.

The year 1973 was a year of victory in which brilliant successes were registered, internally and externally, politically and economically, in the struggle for fulfilling the magnificent programme put forward by the Fifth Congress of the Party.

Last year our people waged an energetic struggle to carry out the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions under the leadership of the Party, holding high the banner of three revolutions, and recorded enormous achievements in all the political, economic and cultural fields.

We brought about a great turn last year in the work of revolutionizing and working-classizing the whole society by keeping the ideological revolution definitely ahead of all other work.

An energetic struggle was waged for strengthening the organizational life and establishing the habit of study among the Party members and working people. As a result, all of them have come to take an active part in the organizational life and the revolutionary habit of study, the habit of studying while working and working while studying, has been firmly established throughout the country.

Last year the revolutionary working class and Party nuclei and young intellectuals performed a very important role in revolutionizing and working-classizing the whole society. Our Party nuclei and young intellectuals went among the working people and energetically waged the struggle against all shades of outmoded ideas and tirelessly carried on ideological education. Especially, the junior cadres of the factories, enterprises and cooperative farms took part in all work with the attitude of a master, and the cadres waged an active struggle at the head of the masses.

With the vigorous progress of the ideological revolution last year, all the Party members and working people were armed more firmly with the *Juche* idea of our Party and the monolithic ideological system of the Party was thoroughly established in the whole society. The level of political consciousness and revolutionary enthusiasm of the Party members and working people were heightened immensely and everyone acquired the trait of carrying out his assignment in a responsible manner with the attitude of a master towards the revolution.

Big success was achieved in the fulfilment of the three major tasks of the technical revolution as well.

The most important task facing us in the fulfilment of the three major tasks of the technical revolution last year was to concentrate efforts on the rural technical revolution to meet 1974, the significant tenth anniversary of the publication of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country".

Our heroic working class infinitely faithful to the Party built the Kumsong Tractor Plant into a large-scale, modern plant in a very short period and mass-produced tractors and sent them to the rural districts. This lifted the number of tractors for every 100 *chongbo* of cultivated land to 2-2.5, and in the plain areas to 3-4, last year.

The workers and technicians of the Sungri General Automobile Plant successfully hit the target of automobile production by displaying all their ingenuity and creativeness, thus making a great contribution to the rural technical revolution.

Last year an energetic struggle was waged to build up fertilizer plants, and the material foundation laid for applying more than one ton of chemical fertilizer per *chongbo* in terms of weight and over 200 kilogrammes in terms of ingredients. Especially, apatite mines were developed on a wide scale, which made it possible to produce an abundance of phosphatic fertilizer from domestic raw materials. And the foundation was laid for the sufficient supply of microelement fertilizer suited to the properties of soil and the specific qualities of crops.

Last year functionaries who graduated from agricultural colleges and young intellectuals actively proceeded to the rural districts and removed conservatism and empiricism remaining among functionaries, gave scientific and technical guidance in the farm work, strictly observed the principles of the right crop to the right soil and the right crop at the right time and thoroughly established a scientific system of fertilizer application.

The active progress of the rural technical revolution and the improvement of guidance over the farm work led to a great change in agricultural production. Our cooperative farmers, infinitely loyal to the Party, effectively carried out all the farm work and reaped last year, too, an unprecedentedly rich harvest and opened up broad prospects for successfully fulfilling the assignment of grain production under the Six-Year Plan.

Last year, in the domain of heavy industry the technical revolution was energetically carried on to bring about definite progress in the work of mechanizing, semi-automating and automating the production processes, markedly lessen toilsome labour, save lots of labour force and bring about a new upsurge in production. Particularly, workers, technicians and young intellectuals took an active part in the technical innovation movement and advanced many new technical proposals. I am greatly satisfied with this.

Last year the Party and the state directed great efforts to the transportation and established various new transport systems and, at the same time, vigorously waged a struggle for building new shipbuilding bases and expanding existing ones. We have thus laid the solid material and technical foundations for building a great many ships of various types including large ships from this year.

In the domain of light industry we built many textile mills and knitwear, footwear, daily necessities and foodstuff factories and set up a clothing factory in each county and workers' settlement. As a result, we are now in a position to ensure better the proportionate development of heavy and light industries and supply the people with a greater amount of high-quality consumption goods and lessen much of the housekeeping burden of women.

The technical revolution was vigorously pushed ahead in all branches of the national economy and economic construction accelerated at a fast pace, with the result that the foundation of an independent national economy has been consolidated all the more. Although the world is swept by a very serious economic fluctuation and many countries are undergoing a fuel crisis and various other economic difficulties, the economy of our country is steadily developing on a very stable basis, free from the impact of this worldwide economic fluctuation and crisis. This furnishes added proof of the correctness and great vitality of our Party's line of building socialist independent national economy.

Last year great success was also achieved in the struggle for carrying out the cultural revolution.

We adopted last year the Law on the Universal Compulsory Ten-Year Senior Middle School Education at the Second Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly and made vigorous endeavours for putting it into practice. Thanks to the energetic struggle of the entire people great advance was made last year in enforcing the universal compulsory ten-year senior middle school education, and it already entered the stage of full-scale enforcement in some areas. It is beyond doubt that the universal compulsory ten-year senior middle school education will be completely enforced ahead of schedule if our people make sustained efforts with such a high degree of enthusiasm as now.

As in school education, a great stride was made in the work of bringing up the preschool children under public care. Many nursery schools and kindergartens were built and their operation was improved, with the result that more than 3.5 million children are reared at nursery schools and kindergartens at state and public expenses and women are able to go to work free from cares.

Last year the habit of study was thoroughly established and technical know-how widely disseminated among the working people to markedly raise the overall technical and cultural levels of the working people.

Last year an energetic struggle was waged for introducing cultured practices in production, work and daily life in the urban and rural areas. The result was that the factories and enterprises were kept neat and tidy, the looks of town and country underwent a radical change, a great turn was effected in the way of life of the working people. The mass movement for introducing the water and bus services in the countryside led to the completion of this work in many local areas.

Last year the writers and artists created revolutionary and militant literary and art works, greatly contributing to the revolutionization and working-classization of the working people and widely demonstrating to the whole world the vitality of the socialist literature and art of our country. Particularly, our writers, artists and pressmen proceeded to the production sites and powerfully encouraged the workers and peasants in the production drive, while tempering themselves. The Party highly appreciates the active contribution made by the writers, artists and pressmen to the fulfilment of the three revolutions through their revolutionary and militant literary, art and propaganda activities and direct participation in labour.

Last year our valiant officers and men of the People's Army and People's Security Forces further increased the combat capacities of their units and firmly defended the security of the fatherland and the people. Our Public Security personnel, with heightened revolutionary vigilance, firmly guarded the socialist gains from the subversive activities and sabotage of the enemy and the Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and Red Young Guardsmen further improved the combat preparedness by intensifying their combat and political trainings.

Greeting the New Year, I express deep thanks to our heroic working class, cooperative farmers, working intellectuals, student youth, officers and men of the People's Army and the People's Security Forces, and the Public Security personnel, Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and Red Young Guardsmen who have performed great exploits on all fronts of socialist construction, holding aloft the banner of the three revolutions.

Last year a great advance was also made in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Last year our people, with the active support and encouragement of the world progressive peoples, curbed and frustrated the manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean reactionaries for the

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NEW YEAR ADDRESS

KIM IL SUNG

(Continued from Page 1)

simultaneous admission of "two Koreas" to the United Nations, dealt a fatal blow at the splittists within and without bent on perpetuating the division of Korea and brought to disbandment the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea", the U.S. imperialists' tool of aggression and interference in our internal affairs. This is a shining victory of our Party's line of independent and peaceful reunification.

Last year the south Korean youth, students and people again rose courageously in the national-deliverance struggle, even under the "state of emergency" in which the fascist repression was so harsh. Now the south Korean youth, students and people are fighting resolutely against the anti-popular, treacherous acts of the south Korean authorities who stamp out democracy, harshly suppress the people and sell out the country and the nation to the U.S. and Japanese aggressors. Their struggle is a just struggle for the right to existence and democracy, a patriotic struggle for saving the country and the nation and reunifying the fatherland.

Seeing the New Year in, I extend full support and encouragement to the just patriotic struggle of the south Korean youth, students and people for the democratization of south Korean society and the deliverance of the country and the nation.

The energetic external activities of our Party and the Government of our Republic last year raised higher the international position of the Republic and further strengthened the international solidarity of our revolution.

The Fourth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries held in Algeria last year denounced the plot of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities to create "two Koreas", expressed firm solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country, and adopted with unanimous approval a resolution in full accord with our Party's line of national reunification. At the 28th Session of the United Nations General Assembly many countries actively supported the line of our Party and the Government of our Republic for independent, peaceful reunification and manifested firm solidarity with the revolutionary cause of our people.

Greeting the New Year, I, in the name of the entire Korean people, offer warm congratulations and greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries, the new-born independent states and many other countries of the world who have positively supported and encouraged our people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Comrades,

The year of 1974 is a year when our people should strive with redoubled efforts for fulfilling the Six-Year Plan ahead of schedule. Whether we carry out ahead of the set time the grand tasks of the Six-Year Plan put forward at the Fifth Congress of the Party or not depends on how we wage the struggle this year. All the Party members and working people should make a decisive advance in the fulfilment of the Six-Year Plan by vigorously working for the preschedule fulfilment of the national economic plan for this year.

This year we should direct the efforts of the whole Party and the whole state to capital construction and effect a great upsurge in construction.

The key to the preschedule fulfilment of the Six-Year Plan in all branches of the national economy lies in successful capital construction this year. The Central Committee of the Party defined this year as a year of construction and decided to concentrate efforts on capital construction.

All the Party members and working people should make a new leap forward in socialist construction by energetically accelerating construction at a new Chollima speed, a new Pyongyang speed. This year we should concentrate our efforts on the expansion project of the Kim Chaek Iron Works, the expansion project of the April 13 Iron Works, the second-stage project of the Sodusu Power Station and the second-stage project of the Pukchang Thermal Power Plant, the construction of the Chongchongang Thermal Power Plant, the Taedong-gang Power Station, the Youth Chemical Factory, the Nampo Chemical Factory, the Sunchon Cement Factory and other major construction objects. We must hasten their construction by the method of finishing the projects one by one and thus bring them into operation at the earliest possible date.

An important task facing us this year is to fulfil the main tasks of the rural technical revolution put forth in the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" and sharply boost agricultural production.

We will mark this year the tenth anniversary of the publication of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country". In accordance with the line laid down in the theses, this year we should effect a new upsurge in the rural technical revolution by strengthening in every way the support of towns to the countryside and the assistance of industry to agriculture and by giving active, nationwide help to the countryside. Especially, in the engineering industry, modern farm machines such as tractors, trucks and tractor-drawn farm machines should be manufactured in great numbers and sent to the countryside; in the chemical industry a wide variety of high-quality chemical fertilizers and agricultural chemicals be produced in larger quantities for the countryside.

By making a decisive advance in the rural technical revolution this year, we should greet the tenth anniversary of the publication of the theses more significantly, relieve the peasants of toilsome labour a great deal and capture the grain height of the Six-Year Plan without fail.

In the mining industry, the installations should be replaced with large-size, modern and high-speed ones and transport be diversified to boost production at the existing mines and, at the same time, new mines should be developed rapidly to increase the ore output, and the output of nonferrous metal ores in particular be decisively increased. In order to dispose of the rapidly increasing nonferrous metal ores in time, the utilization of equipment should be further increased at the nonferrous metallurgical works, and a new, large-scale, modern nonferrous metallurgical base built in the Tanchon area.

In accordance with the line advanced by the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Party, this year we should increase investments in the coal industry, replace the coal mine facilities with large-size and modern ones and give a definite precedence to prospecting and tunnelling at the coal mines to sharply increase coal output.

The engineering industry should devote efforts this year to the production of ordered equipment of factories to smoothly manufacture and supply such equipment to various branches of the national economy.

In order to develop the fisheries and marine transport and successfully carry on foreign trade, it is necessary to further develop the shipbuilding industry and build many big ships. This year the workers and technicians in the shipbuilding industry should boldly think and buckle down to building many big ships, above 10,000-ton class, by relying on the already-laid foundation of the shipbuilding industry. In step with the growth of shipbuilding, the production of engines of various types should be increased and the base for manufacturing ship outfit be consolidated to produce high-quality ship outfit in larger quantities.

In light industry, the locally-controlled industry should be extensively developed, along with the centrally-controlled industry, to bring about a new turn in the production of consumption goods. The provincial, city and county Party organizations and leading workers should build on a large scale light industry factories including cornstarch factories, foodstuff factories, textile mills, knitwear mills, clothing factories, furniture factories and daily necessities factories by actively tapping the local reserves from the stand of a master, so that more high-quality daily necessities of wide variety are produced.

This year we should dynamically accelerate socialist economic construction to further consolidate the material and technical foundations of the country and make the people's life more abundant and cultured. Thus, we should bring into full play the inexhaustible vitality and superiority of our advanced socialist system.

The present era is an era of science and technology; today the main reserves for the growth of production in our country lie in the rapid development of science and technology. The scientists and technicians should actively step up scientific researches from the *Juche* stand and satisfactorily solve the scientific and technical problems arising in the fulfilment of the three major tasks of the technical revolution and the Six-Year Plan. They should raise the level of science and technology of our country to the world level as soon as possible.

In the domain of education the principles of socialist pedagogy should be thoroughly applied to further improve the educational work, the material foundation of schools reinforced and a revolutionary habit of study established among the teachers and students.

The writers and artists should create a larger number of revolutionary and popular literary and art works, which will help firmly arm the working people with the *Juche* idea of our Party and rouse them to the energetic revolutionary struggle and constructive work.

This year, too, we should continue to direct great efforts to the work of increasing the defence capabilities of the country. The officers and men of the People's Army and the People's Security Forces should firmly arm themselves with the *Juche* idea of our Party and energetically conduct combat trainings to increase the combat power of their units in every way, and they should always keep themselves in a strained and mobilized posture. The Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen and the Red Young Guardsmen should intensify the combat and political trainings, while successfully carrying out their revolutionary tasks, and thus prepare themselves as trustworthy reserves and replacements for the People's Army.

For the successful fulfilment of the enormous revolutionary tasks confronting us this year, it is necessary to increase the fighting capacity of the Party organizations and decisively raise the sense of responsibility and role of the leading personnel.

The Party organizations at all levels should give definite precedence to the ideological revolution to continuously deepen the work for the revolutionization and working-classization of all the working people. They should do the work with people well to bring into full play the revolutionary zeal and creative activity of the working people.

The leading personnel of the Party, state and economic organizations should rid themselves of subjectivism, bureaucratism, formalism, expedientialism and all other residue of obsolete ideas, strive to enhance their Party spirit, working-class spirit and spirit of faithful service to the people, and fully apply the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method. Especially, the functionaries of the state and economic bodies should further rationalize the enterprise management and scrupulously carry out the work of organizing the economy as required by the Taean work system and the new system of agricultural guidance, so that the daily, monthly and quarterly national economic plans are fulfilled without fail.

This year we will also make energetic efforts to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. We will make every sincere effort to thoroughly implement the three principles of national reunification laid down in the July 4 North-South Joint Statement and join strength with all the progressive forces of south Korea to fight resolutely against the splittists within and without bent on perpetuating the country's division.

This year the Chongryon organizations and the Korean nationals in Japan should struggle more staunchly to expedite the independent, peaceful reunification of the country and make tireless efforts to strengthen international solidarity with the Japanese people and the progressive peoples of the world. The Chongryon organizations should wage an energetic struggle to establish more thoroughly the ideological system of *Juche*, strengthen the unity and cohesion of their ranks and revolutionize all the Korean nationals in Japan.

Today, the general international situation is developing in favour of the revolutionary cause of our people. Our Party and the Government of our Republic will strive this year, too, to strengthen solidarity with all the progressive peoples of the world and wage the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle with redoubled vigour.

Comrades,

The revolutionary tasks confronting us this year are very difficult and enormous. All the Party members and working people should make uninterrupted innovation and continued advance without slackening the heightened revolutionary spirit in the slightest degree and effect another great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction. Thus, they will overfulfil the national economic plan for this year and lay a solid groundwork for carrying out all the assignments of the Six-Year Plan ahead of schedule.

Holding aloft the banner of Marxism-Leninism, the revolutionary banner of the *Juche* idea, and united rock-firm around the Central Committee of the Party, let us all march forward dynamically to fulfil the Six-Year Plan ahead of schedule and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

The New Year's Day dawns over Mangyongdae, the cradle of revolution

New Year's Celebrations of Pyongyang School Children Are Held, Attended by the Respected and Beloved Leader Marshal KIM IL SUNG

The New Year celebrations of Pyongyang children and students are honoured by the presence of the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung

The New Year's celebrations of Pyongyang school children were held at the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace on December 31, 1973, honoured by the presence of the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the revolution and the affectionate father of our students and children.

The palace was beautifully bedecked with slogans "Greeting the New Year we reverentially wish our father Marshal Kim Il Sung good health and long life!" "Marshal Kim Il Sung, thank you!" "We have nothing more to desire in the world!" and national flags, festive illuminations and various other decorations.

At 7 p.m. the fatherly leader arrived at the palace.

At that moment the students and children there broke into rousing cheers of "Long live the great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung!"

The respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung was met at the entrance of the palace by responsible workers of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth and the palace as well as students and children.

Amid the enthusiastic cheers of *manse* (hurrah) children rushed forward and presented the Marshal, their father, with bouquets of fragrant flowers and tied a red scarf around his neck.

Present at the celebrations were Comrade Kang Ryang Uk, Vice-President; and Members and Alternate Members of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Secretaries of the Central Committee of the Party, Vice-Premiers of the Administration Council, Department Directors of the Central Committee of the Party, Chairmen of the Committees and Ministers of the Administration Council, responsible functionaries of political parties and public organizations, generals of the Korean People's Army, responsible functionaries of the Pyongyang City Committee of the Party and responsible functionaries in the fields of science, education, culture, art and the press.

Also present there were the members of the delegation of Koreans in Japan headed by Hong Bong Su, Vice-Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon), the 13th and 14th home-visiting groups of Koreans in Japan and the first home-visiting group of Korean women in Japan.

The leader walked to the gymnasium of the palace amid the enthusiastic cheers of Young Pioneers.

The fatherly leader warmly took the cheering children by the hand and gently patted them on the head one by one. He, beaming with a broad smile all over his face, acknowledged to their welcome by waving his hand.

When the fatherly leader appeared in the box of the gymnasium to the loud strain of the welcome music, the entire students and audience enthusiastically welcomed him, shouting *manse* at the top of their voices and waving high above their heads beautiful floral fans, bunches of flowers and balloons.

In an atmosphere overflowing with the infinite adoration for the great leader, children presented a basket of fragrant flowers to the affectionate father Marshal Kim Il Sung and reverentially extended, representing the feelings of allegiance of the 2.6 million members of the Pioneers' Corps, their New Year greetings to the Marshal, wishing him a long life in good health.

The leader greeted the children joyously ringing in the hopeful New Year and saw the art performance given by school children of Pyongyang to celebrate the New Year.

The audience was deeply impressed by the performance for its high ideological and artistic value. The performance fully reflected the feelings of our people and school children who wish the respected and beloved father Marshal Kim Il Sung to enjoy a long life in good health and ardently desire to live happily under his leadership in a reunified, beautiful land of three thousand *ri* for many, many years.

Enjoying the New Year's celebrations honoured with the visit of the leader, the school children took a solemn pledge to prepare themselves more firmly as revolutionary fighters infinitely faithful to him and the guard detachment and death-defying corps defending and protecting him politically and ideologically, and loyally attend him till the end of sun and moon and go even to the limits of the earth with him following his wise guidance.

"We Live Putting Our Entire Trust in Marshal KIM IL SUNG, the Sun of the Nation"

South Korean People Deeply Respect and Venerate the Leader

The infinite respect and veneration that we feel for the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great sun of the nation and affectionate father of our people, is daily growing among the south Korean people.

A worker in Seoul, who is a member of the "Study Group of Revolutionary History of Comrade Kim Il Sung", said:

"General Kim Il Sung was born in a patriotic and revolutionary family rare to be seen in the world. It is now a half century since he set out on the revolutionary road in his early years. During this period, he has devoted his all to the struggle solely for the freedom and welfare of the people, the prosperity of the country and the nation, and the victory of the cause of socialism and communism, so attaining great and brilliant achievements which will record a glorious page in the history of our country and the history of the world revolutionary movement."

A resident in Taegu said:

"General Kim Il Sung, genius of mankind, founded the immortal *Juche* idea, the great guiding idea of our time. This radiated great hopes for the people. He led the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle and the revolution and construction after liberation to the road of victory, and has converted the northern half of the Republic into a powerful socialist state with a complete political independence, a firm independent national economy, an invincible self-defence capability and a national culture of highest level in the world."

The south Korean peasants, who have been aspiring to the land for centuries, are at one in their hearts to express their faith in General Kim Il Sung, saying that no one but General Kim Il Sung knows best their sufferings.

"Happy indeed are the peasants in the north who are under the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung.

"It is our greatest desire to live under his leadership at the earliest possible date and do farming with complete peace of mind on the land given by him without envying the richest peasants."

There is a growing tendency among the south Korean intellectuals to build a new life in the embrace of the leader entrusting their destiny to him.

A university professor in Seoul said:

"Only under the guidance of President Kim Il Sung the intellectuals of conscience in the southern land of darkness can live a worthy life.

"This is the way leading all the intellectuals to a new life."

A certain Kim, engineer of a metallurgical plant in Inchon, said:

"Only under the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Marshal Kim Il Sung, can the technicians also take the proper position and feel pride of being technicians.

"I and my colleagues who boundlessly revere and respect the leader firmly believe that the day will come soon."

The Pak Jung Hi fascist bandits have done everything in their power to prevent great impact of the superiority of the socialist system built in the northern half of the Republic from making its way to the minds of south Korean people. But the people's longing for the socialist system is growing day by day.

A resident in Seoul said:

"The north with a new government guided by General Kim Il Sung builds communism. But south Korea is ruled by a corrupt 'liberal democracy'. I prefer communist government, under which all work happily with perfect unity, to 'liberal democracy'."

A fisherman, who had once stayed in the north after having been rescued from a disaster on the sea, said:

"The north is quite another world. The government authorities speak ill of the society and people in the north. But reality refutes their propaganda. People there are all kind and polite. There is no distinction of rank and all people are equal. I did sightseeing to my heart's content for the first time in my life, and was treated as a human being.

"There are many countries and many heroes in the world. But there is no great man as General Kim Il Sung in this world.

"Workers and peasants there participate in the government affairs as masters of the country. All people are living an equally good life without any worry about job, medical care and education of their children. We can also lead a happy life only under his government".

The south Korean people who boundlessly adore and trust President Kim Il Sung, the sun of the nation, are eagerly looking forward to the day when they will live in his warm embrace.

An old man in Pochon county, Kyonggi Province, said:

"Sooner or later, the General will deliver us peasants in the south from our wretched plight.

"His direct guidance alone brings us a happy and bountiful life.

"We peasants in the south live putting our entire trust in Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great sun of the nation".

A farmer in Mokpo made the following remarks:

"Current developments suggest that the day is not far when this land will be placed under the administration of Marshal Kim Il Sung.

"Eagerly awaiting that day to come, we always shout 'Long live Marshal Kim Il Sung!' in our hearts."

A worker in Taegu, North Kyongsang Province, said emphatically before their colleagues that if we want to extricate ourselves from the grim situation and enjoy a real life, we should be surrounded by the warm care of the great leader. He added that we should fight never yielding to any suppression. Then he shouted repeatedly: "Long live General Kim Il Sung!"

A worker in Kwangju, South Cholla Province, urged his comrades to rise up in the struggle for reunification, saying:

"Reunification will surely be achieved if the entire Korean people unite and fight on under the wise leadership of the great revolutionary leader President Kim Il Sung upholding his line for the independent and peaceful national reunification.

"Let's throw open the gate to national reunification by resolutely thwarting the obstructionist schemes of the U.S. imperialists and traitorous flunkeyists with concerted actions of the whole nation."

No greater happiness and glory is there for those who are born into our land than to live and fight as a faithful revolutionary fighter of Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great sun of the nation, and devote their all for the cause of national reunification shown by him.

That is why the south Korean people of all strata—living in the heart of Seoul or in a hovel with no electric light in the coasts of the South Sea of Korea—sing at the top of their voice the 'Song of General Kim Il Sung', the song of loyalty, and come forward in the struggle for the independent, peaceful reunification.

Proudly they sing the song, straightening their clothes and express their best wishes that the leader will enjoy good health and a long life.

Long Live Marshal KIM IL SUNG!

Etmannu Uld Elei Uafo (Mauritania)

The warm and gentle rays that spread over the whole world
Come from Marshal Kim Il Sung.
Under his warm sunrays
All things in nature thrive.

Marshal Kim Il Sung is the great sun of revolution.
A powerful torrent is flowing
Touching and firing the hearts of people all over the globe.
It is the great Juche idea rushing right through the 20th century.

What is the fountainhead of this torrent?
Marshal Kim Il Sung is the father of the Juche idea!
Marshal Kim Il Sung is the genius-thinker!
Marshal Kim Il Sung is the leader
Who showers the people with the gentle affection of a father.
Marshal Kim Il Sung is the ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander
Who pronounced history's final indictment to imperialism.
Marshal Kim Il Sung is the strategist of world revolution.

Marshal Kim Il Sung is the great leader of revolution.
The Juche idea is the red beacon
That now lights the path for the revolutionary people to take
And gives them strength.

We are the revolutionary fighters
Dismembering U.S. imperialism, the inveterate foe of mankind.
With all our warm hearts
We sing a hymn of praise to you
Kim Il Sung, Kim Il Sung!

Oh, our respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung!
May you enjoy
Good health and long life
Good health and long life
For the final triumph of world revolution.

To Bring a New Phase in Our Struggle for National Reunification

Hong Gi Mun,

Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland

Last year our people under the wise leadership of the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung vigorously struggled for the earliest realization of the country's independent, peaceful reunification with the active support and encouragement from the peace-loving people of the world and made great advance, shattering all kinds of manoeuvres and stratagem of the U.S. and Japanese aggressors and the traitorous clique in south Korea, their stooges.

An event worthy of special mention here is the result of the debate on the Korean question at the 28th UN General Assembly session held with the attendance of the delegation of our country.

As already known, the UN General Assembly session, supporting the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity which strike the keynote of the North-South Joint Statement, expressed its hope for the solution of the Korean question in accordance with these principles and decided to dissolve the "UNCURK" which had served U.S. imperialism as a tool in its Korean aggression.

This is a brilliant victory of Comrade Kim Il Sung's line for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country and a shining triumph of the entire Korean people in their struggle for its implementation.

At the same time, it is a common victory won by the peoples in fraternal socialist countries and newly-independent countries and the peace-lovers in the world, who have actively supported and encouraged our people in their just struggle.

The result of the UN debate on the Korean question is a shameful defeat of the U.S. and Japanese aggressors machinating to create two Koreas, keep Korea divided forever and attain their purpose for invasion of Korea, and it is an ignominious setback of the Pak Jung Hi clique indulging in foul dealings to sell the country and the nation to the outside forces for their own wealth and personal comfort.

Last year the students and people in south Korea, too, turned out in the fierce resistance struggle against the Pak Jung Hi gangsters who were intensifying the fascist dictatorship, seeking to perpetuate the division of the country and opposing its reunification persistently.

The student struggle has been raging up to this date since the students of the Liberal Arts and Science College of the Seoul University raised the torch of struggle in early October. And journalists, religionists, opposition party members and other personages and broad sections of the people joined in this struggle.

They put up the slogans "Down with Pak regime!" "Discontinue intelligence-backed rule!" "Put an end to dependence-on-Japan diplomacy!" "Guarantee freedom of discussion on the unification problem and participation in it!" "Call meeting of political parties and social organizations in the north and south!" and "Make efforts to remove military tension and conclude peace agreement!"

As these slogans indicate definitely, the struggle of the south Korean students and people is a just struggle against the fascist dictatorship and treacheries of the Pak Jung Hi clique and for the right to existence and democracy, a patriotic struggle for saving the country and the nation and reunifying the fatherland.

Their struggle proves a sledge-hammer blow at the Pak Jung Hi clique, making them shudder with fear and unrest.

It is also a convincing proof of the validity and vitality of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's line on the struggle for democratization of the south Korean society as well as his line for reunifying the country independently and peacefully, his five-point national reunification programme in particular.

Due to all these developments, the internal and external situation has turned more favourably to our people's cause of reunification.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung declared:

"We always maintain that our homeland should be reunified independently and peacefully without foreign interference. Furthermore we assert that the unity of the whole nation should be achieved, with both sides trusting and respecting each other, despite the difference of systems between the north and south."

The DPRK Government advanced the fair and square line for the solution of the reunification question in the first days of national division and has all along struggled to put it into practice. Now under the circumstances, ever more favourable, it is exerting every sincere effort to accelerate reunification in accordance with the afore-said three principles the validity of which has been recognized internationally.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung clarified a new, most reasonable and just five-point programme for national reunification in his historic speech on June 23 last year.

Upholding this programme, the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean Democratic Party and the Chondoist Chongu Party again proposed to the political parties in south Korea on November 16 last year the convocation of a Great National Congress with a view to warding off the impending danger of perpetual split of the nation and promoting the country's reunification.

At the meetings of vice-chairmen of both sides to the North-South Coordination Commission, we advanced to the south Korean side the reasonable proposals that the NSCC be reorganized extensively so as to embrace the representatives of political parties and social organizations and individual personages in the north and south and that the talks of the north and south Red Cross organizations be resumed at the earliest date.

All these proposals of ours are reasonable ones aimed to successfully speed up the north-south dialogue and thus hasten the country's reunification, the greatest desire of the nation, with the active participation of the broad masses of the people in the north and south of Korea who are to reunify the country by their own efforts.

If the proposals are carried into effect, a new phase will be brought in our struggle for reunification.

None of the fair proposals, however, has found a favourable response of the south Korean authorities.

Wirepulled by the U.S. imperialists, the south Korean authorities are still seeking the north-south confrontation and perpetual division in reliance on the outside forces, instead of the unity and collaboration between the north and south, though their scheme to manufacture two Koreas has ended in failure.

They are intensifying the anti-"communist" campaign and war preparations as never before under the pretext of the fictitious "threat of southward invasion" and becoming even more frantic in their fascist suppression of the youth, students and people who call for democratization of the south Korean society and the peaceful reunification of the country.

They are imploring for prolonged occupation of south Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops. What is more, at the recent "south Korea-Japan ministerial conference", they struck a shady bargain with the Japanese militarists for selling the country to them.

These criminal manoeuvrings show with added clarity the falsehood of their talk about "dialogue" and "unification" and their true colours as quislings.

We urge that the south Korean authorities stop committing all these treacheries and in accordance with the three principles specified in the North-South Joint Statement signed by themselves before the whole nation, take sincere attitude in the dialogue and bend serious efforts for reunification, if they have true intention to work for peaceful reunification.

This year too, all the Korean people will strive with might and main to bring earlier the day of independent and peaceful reunification by frustrating the obstructionist acts of the splittists at home and abroad.

We feel certain that the progressive people all over the world who love justice and truth and value peace, democracy, national independence and independent development, will give positive support and encouragement to our people's righteous struggle for national reunification in the New Year, too, as in the past year.

Pyongyang on New Year's Day

Every street and every corner of Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, is in festive mood on the New Year's Day.

Every face of citizens is beaming with great joy and pride. They have every reason to do so. They achieved great success last year in all branches of politics, economy and culture under the wise guidance of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, holding high the banner of the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions.

Just before they televiewed Comrade Kim Il Sung making the New Year Address reviewing the last year's success and presenting this year's fighting goal. Now inspired by this, citizens are full of determination to creditably carry out their assigned tasks to show their loyalty to the leader.

Seen in every street colourfully decorated are the slogans "We cordially wish the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung good health and long life!" "Let's thoroughly carry out the decisions of the Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea!" and "Let's reunify the country independently!"

Working people are seen forming a long queue before the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace and other cultural establishments. Sports fans throng to the Pyongyang Gymnasium.

The New Year celebrations are being held at factories and other enterprises. I am now in the crowd at the Workers' House of Culture attached to the Central District Public Building Construction Office where New Year celebrations are in full swing. Here I happened to meet Labour Heroine Li Myong Won, head of a workshop of its office, and had a brief interview. Asked about this year's resolve, she said:

"I'm ready to devote all my wisdom and energy to construction of the capital which will be undertaken on a larger scale, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's instruction that this year should be made a year of construction. I'll do all I can in the efforts to make our Red capital more beautiful and modern."

Yun Jong Ok

So happy on this New Year's Day in Pyongyang boulevards Photo by Chong Ui Ryol

GOOD BEGINNING

The working people in different parts of the country worked hard on the first day of the year, greatly encouraged by the New Year Address of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, and scored innovatory successes in production.

He instructed:

"The revolutionary tasks confronting us this year are very difficult and enormous. All the Party members and working people should make uninterrupted innovation and continued advance without slackening the heightened revolutionary spirit in the slightest degree and effect another great revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction. Thus, they will overfulfil the national economic plan for this year and lay a solid groundwork for carrying out all the assignments of the Six-Year Plan ahead of schedule."

Upholding Comrade Kim Il Sung's programmatic instruction, the workers of the Kangson Steel Plant devoted themselves to their first-day operation to attain the steel production goal for this year they had boldly set 50 per cent higher than the actual results brought about last year.

Splendid achievements were made in all shops and at all units such as steel shop, relay unwrought steel production shop, blooming and rolling shop, 6,000-ton press shop, etc. The first-day plan for steel production was fulfilled at 146 per cent and rolled steel at 122 per cent.

The Kangson Steel Plant was not alone in making such a proud success in their first-day campaign of this year intended to reach the eminence of the Six-Year Plan.

The steel makers of the Kim Chaek Iron Works kept running the equipment at full capacity from the outset, strictly observed the rules of standard operation and introduced new work methods. This led to fine results—fulfilment of the daily production plan for pig iron at 128.1 per cent and steel at 134.9 per cent.

The workers of the Hungnam Combined Fertilizer Enterprise also hit the first-day production target with flying colours in their effort to carry out the assignment specified in the New Year Address of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Thanks to the titanic labour efforts of workers and technicians engaged in production of ammonia through gasification of anthracite and that of phosphorus and other fertilizers, their first-day plans, set far higher than the last year's, were hit at 120 per cent.

The workers and technicians of the February 8 Combined Vinalon Enterprise were no exception. They worked like blazes in heightened revolutionary spirit and out of desire to build up more solidly the *Juche*-oriented base for chemical fibre production and meet the demand of the light industry for fibre more satisfactorily, and overfulfilled their first-day assignments.

The railway workers of the West Pyongyang Locomotive Brigade, infinitely loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, plunged into the first-day battle with an adamant resolve to hit the target envisaged in the Six-Year Plan far ahead of the set time. Thanks to their energetic struggle the first-day assignments were fulfilled at 125 per cent.

The same was true of the Chongjin Locomotive Brigade and all the other units in railway transport. The workers there succeeded in carrying more than 1.2 times as much freight as that last year.

All these successes achieved in the first battle for the New Year show that our working people are firmly determined to fulfil the Six-Year Plan ahead of the set time.

Our Working People Determine to Fulfil the Six-Year Plan Ahead of Schedule

With the Pride of Undertaking the First Process of Production

Greeting the New Year 1974 in anticipation of another great change, we, workers of the Ryongdae Coal Mine, also listened to the New Year Address of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. We are now immensely moved and excited, inflamed with infinite loyalty to the leader.

In his New Year Address he reviewed the remarkable achievements made by our people in the foregoing year and brightly lit up the path they should follow in their struggle ahead.

In fact, great victory was won last year.

Following his wise leadership with intense loyalty to him, we also waged vigorous struggle to scale the height of coal output under the Six-Year Plan earlier than scheduled, and surpassed in October the production level to be reached at the end of the Plan.

The demand for coal grows as all the branches of the national economy develop rapidly.

Our coal mine now has the honourable revolutionary task of fulfilling the assignment of the Six-Year Plan more than two years ahead of the set time.

Gigantic and difficult as it is, we think it a manifestation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's political trust and paternal affection for us. So, we will do all we can to bring about fresh revolutionary upsurge this year, too, and thus carry it out with flying colours before October 10, the founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Bearing in mind the leader's teaching that it is a common law in the development of the mining industry to conduct tunnelling before other work, we will prepare the cutting faces as far as possible, and will hit our daily target by all means.

At the same time, with the attitude of a master in coal production, we will strive to modernize equipment and install larger ones in our mine and push ahead dynamically with the comprehensive mechanization in hewing through energetic technical renovation movement. This will lead to marked increase of coal production, we believe.

We will try to properly maintain and care for installations in use, while keeping them running to full capacity. We will carry on open-cast mining on a large scale.

Thus, we will do our bit in the endeavour to meet satisfactorily the fast-growing demand of the national economy for coal and work hard with high pride in being the revolutionary fighters of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the coal miners undertaking the first process of production.

Chon Gyong Chun
Commander, Pit No. 2, Coal Cutting Company
Ryongdae Coal Mine

For Another Bumper Crop This Year

The year 1974 will be a very significant year for us working in the domain of agriculture. This is because this year we will mark the tenth anniversary of the publication of the immortal classic work "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" authored by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Under the rays of the theses, our socialist countryside has changed beyond recognition.

With the successful implementation of the rural technical revolution, irrigation and electrification have already been completed and comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization vigorously promoted. This success has resulted in a good harvest every year.

Our Ryongrim Cooperative Farm gathered in an average of 7.2 tons of paddy rice per *chongbo* last year, 13.6 tons at maximum.

Thus, we enjoyed the high commendation of the fatherly leader.

Needless to say, our achievements were great last year. But we are now confronted with an honourable task to attain greater success this year.

In his New Year Address Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"By making a decisive advance in the rural technical revolution this year, we should greet the tenth anniversary of the publication of the theses more significantly, relieve the peasants of toilsome labour a great deal and capture the grain height of the Six-Year Plan without fail."

The leader's teaching greatly inspires us in the new task and we are filled with the determination to effect a new upsurge on all fronts of agricultural production this year.

We have a definite prospect that our resolve will be put into execution.

There are, first of all, the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the powerful assistance of the working class.

Our workers have plunged themselves into the vigorous struggle to bring the number of tractors (in terms of 15 hp units) to 70,000-80,000, the task put forward in the theses, by July this year.

It is expected that this year we will be provided with more chemical fertilizers and agricultural chemicals than before.

The point depends on how we do farming.

We organized ourselves into guards named after the "Flower Girl" and are now all out to do farming in the same "manner of the Mangyongdae Cooperative farmers".

Our agricultural working people who are responsible for country's grain production have already made full preparations for this year's farming before the New Year.

We are determined to gather a bumper crop this year, too, and add lustre to the honour that we are the agricultural working people boundlessly loyal to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. We will do this by actively promoting comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization of farming, putting farming work on a scientific and technical footing and carefully tending fields as we do flower gardens.

Kim Won Nyo, leader of the 4th workteam of Ryongrim Cooperative Farm in Mundok County

More Competent Technical Personnel to Be Trained

A fruitful year passed off and the morning of the hope-filled New Year has dawned.

My heart swells with emotion when I think of the great changes that have taken place in this country, the ever-prosperous, thriving land of ours.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"The main task facing education is that of forming large contingents of technicians and specialists, the nation's huge army of intellectuals."

The policy set forth by the leader for training a huge army of intellectuals is indeed a far-sighted policy to bring the number of technicians and specialists to more than one million in the near future and rear more and better talents who would be capable of carrying out the technological revolution of a higher plane.

We greet the fourth New Year since we set about implementing the great policy with our whole hearts.

During this period enormous successes have been registered in the educational domain as in all other spheres.

The universal compulsory ten-year senior middle school education started in 1972 is being successfully introduced in all schools across the country at a higher pace than scheduled. It has already entered the stage of full-scale enforcement in some areas.

In compliance with the demands of all branches of the national economy for technical personnel, new institutions of higher learning and new faculties and departments continue to increase in number, and the educational work at the existing universities and colleges and higher technical schools has been further improved and strengthened, with the student enrollment becoming larger.

Let me say a few words about the Kim Chaek Polytechnical University where I work. As compared with 1968, the number of students more than doubled and two more faculties and 18 more departments came into being.

Our university is a reliable, all-embracing centre for training of technical personnel. Its grandeur changes past recognition year after year, furnished with modern educational facilities. In a word, our university is a palace of science provided by the fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. I am filled with a fresh determination to thoroughly put into practice the principles of socialist pedagogy advanced by the leader and further improve the educational work and turn out this year a larger contingent of more competent mining engineers who are infinitely loyal to the leader and who would do much as pillars in the era of science and technology.

Kim Jong Bin,
Dean of the Mining Engineering Faculty, Kim Chaek Polytechnical University

They are at one in their will to fulfil ahead of schedule the tasks presented in the leader's New Year Address

Tricontinental Peoples Are Sure to Triumph under the Banner of Anti-Imperialist, Anti-U.S. Struggle

Ushering in the New Year 1974, the Korean people send militant greetings to the revolutionary peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America who are vigorously fighting under the uplifted banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

Indeed, the year 1973 was a year of struggle and victory, which added another shining page to the history of the national liberation movement in the world.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"Today Asia, Africa and Latin America have become the most determined anti-imperialist front. Imperialism has met with the strong resistance of the Asian, African and Latin-American peoples and has suffered the heaviest blows from them."

In the past year the revolutionary peoples the world over waged a staunch anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. common struggle everywhere, dismembering the U.S. imperialists and driving them to a tight corner.

The heroic peoples of Asia, the main arena of anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle, united themselves closely in the same fighting ranks to counter the insidious aggressive machinations of U.S. imperialism to make Asians fight Asians and dealt decisive blows at the enemy. Thus they smashed the "Asian strategy" of U.S. imperialism and precipitated its ruin.

The heroic Vietnamese people fought a fierce war of resistance against U.S. aggression and for national salvation with the active support and encouragement of the world people and won a brilliant victory.

The Cambodian people and the National Liberation People's Armed Forces have pocketed the Lon Nol puppet clique in a narrow strip of Pnom Penh, pressing harder their last windpipe.

The people of Laos frustrated the U.S. imperialists' armed intervention and war escalation manoeuvres and achieved an armistice, and the people of Thailand overthrew the traitorous Thanom clique, the U.S. imperialists' lackeys and fascist hangmen.

Particularly, south Korean people, youth and students launched a nation-wide struggle against the fascist terror rule and country-selling acts of the Pak Jung Hi clique, the dual stooges of the U.S. and Japanese imperialists. Their dauntless struggle against fascism and for democratization administered a telling blow to the anti-popular dictatorial system of the puppet clique and the colonial rule of U.S. imperialism over south Korea.

Last year the Arab peoples put up a valorous struggle against the U.S. imperialists and Israeli aggressors. Rallied firmly on the anti-U.S., anti-Israeli common front, they inflicted a mortal blow on the enemy and defended their national dignity and sovereignty. In particular, their collective banning or restriction of oil export proved a serious blow at the imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists.

The fighting peoples in Africa including those in Guinea (Bissau), Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Namibia mounted relentless attacks on the imperialists and colonialists everywhere. The people of Guinea (Bissau) proclaimed to the world the birth of the Republic of Guinea (Bissau), a sovereign and independent state, after their protracted armed struggle.

Many African countries which won independence brought about great changes in the social, economic and cultural spheres under the revolutionary slogan: "Let us build the national economy by our efforts and with our own resources!"

The raging flames of anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle swept across the Latin-American continent, too. The peoples of all progressive and revolutionary countries in this continent conducted a joint struggle stubbornly against the U.S. imperialists' aggression, interference in their domestic affairs and economic plunder and bound them hand and foot so that they cannot ride roughshod over Latin America any more.

True, the year 1973 was a year of struggle, a year of victory and a year of glory, in which the Asian, African and Latin-American peoples fought vigorously, holding aloft the banner of anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle.

The Korean people warmly congratulate the peoples of the three continents on all their victories and great changes and firmly believe that they will attain greater victories and more brilliant successes in their struggle in the days to come.

Above all, we Korean people express heartfelt thanks to the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for their positive support to our struggle for independent, peaceful reunification of the country and are convinced that our solidarity and cooperation with them will further strengthen.

Now the imperialists are making desperate efforts to save themselves from the final doom.

The great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught as follows:

"In the field of international relations, too, all the revolutionary forces of the world should firmly unite and continue to wage a stubborn struggle against imperialism if they are to win the victory of the common cause of peace and democracy, national independence and socialism."

As the leader taught, only through struggle we can defeat imperialism and achieve the victory of our common cause.

If all the tricontinental peoples unite firmly and join in striking blows at the U.S.-led imperialists and putting pressure to bear upon them, they will become impotent and will in the end be expelled from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

As hitherto, so in the future, the Korean people, holding high the revolutionary banner of anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle, will unite with the peoples of socialist countries, unite with the embattled peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America and unite with all progressive peoples throughout the world, and continue to fight stoutly against the U.S.-led imperialism and for the triumph of the cause of peace and democracy, national independence and socialism and communism.

Victory is in store for the just cause of the Asian, African and Latin-American peoples who are forging ahead raising high the revolutionary banner of anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle.

Closer Friendship, Stronger Solidarity

Hwang Nae Ik

Vice-Chairman of Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries

Ushering in the New Year 1974, we wish to offer the warmest greetings to our close, foreign friends and the people in all countries who are friendly towards us.

At the same time, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to governments, embattled organizations, social organizations, friendship associations, international organizations and progressive personages in different countries for all they have done to support our people's struggle.

Last year the international solidarity of our revolution grew stronger due to the resolute anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. stand of our Party and the Government of the Republic and to their independent, principled foreign policy. An increasing number of people in foreign countries are giving us active support and encouragement in our just revolutionary cause, highly appreciating the splendid achievements we have made in socialist construction under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people.

Many countries and people have been active in voicing their full support and approval of Comrade Kim Il Sung's line for the independent national reunification and in calling for immediate removal of all the obstacles to the cause of Korea's reunification, as seen from the summit conference of non-aligned states and other international conferences.

Particular mention should be made of the fact that the 28th UN General Assembly adopted with unanimous approval a decision which, considering the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—to be the great programme for solution of Korea's reunification question, demanded the north and the south of Korea to resume the dialogue and materialize many-sided interchange and cooperation in accordance with the principles and decided that the "UNCURK," a notorious instrument of U.S. imperialism for its aggression, be dissolved.

This is a shining victory we Korean people won in our struggle to achieve peaceful reunification of the country by our own efforts on a democratic basis, without any interference of outside forces and a common triumph of the progressive people the world over who gave positive support and encouragement to our just cause.

It has now become an irresistible trend of the times to recognize the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with it.

At present the DPRK maintains diplomatic as well as political, economic and cultural relations with many countries. Last year it established diplomatic relations with 16 countries at ambassadorial level and was admitted to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, World Health Organization and other international organizations.

More, a large number of foreign delegations and prominent figures visited our country from various parts of the world and strengthened the bond of friendship with us.

We note with great pride that the supporters and sympathizers of our revolutionary cause are increasing in number day after day.

This year, too, we Korean people will exert every effort to strengthen militant solidarity with the revolutionary people throughout the world and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with the people in all countries who support our struggle.

We are sure that our close, foreign friends and the people in all countries who are friendly toward us will attain greater success in their noble work in the New Year.

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